स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दलित एज़िलमलाई) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) से (घ) भविष्य में ड्राप्सी जैसी स्थिति होने से रोकने के लिए राज्य सरकारों को अनेक राज्यों में बेचे जा रहें सरसों के तेल की गुणवत्ता पर निगरानी रखने और सभी स्थानों से नमुने लेने के काम को तेज करने के बारे में एक बार फिर से सतर्क कर दिया गया है।

Self-sufficiency in Production of Medicines

516. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMI LY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of medicines produced by our firms/medical scientists which are self-sufficient for country's use;

(b) the number of export medicines and imported medicines from or to our country with their names;

(c) whether it is a fact that prices of imported medicines are more than that of exported medicines;

(d) if so, the modalities thereof; and

(e) whether Government have any plan for our country's self-sufficiency in medicines'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHIL-MALAI): (a) to (e) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

Marketing of Imported HIV spot-test Kits

517. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in Observer of the 17th December. 1998, stating that Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Limited (DRL), a Hyderabad based pharmaceutical company is involved in marketing of imported HIV spot-test kits of Gene labs, without import licences and Government approval ;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against the DRL: and

(c) what steps are being taken to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHIL-MALAI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Since some of the HIV spot kits belonging to Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Limited, Hyderabad were found to be sold in the market prior to laboratory batch test and clearance, a strict warning has been issued to the firm by the Office of Drug controller General (India). The State Drug Controller, Andhra Pradesh has separately confirmed that the firm has recalled the kits from the market. Besides, the initial application of the firm for import permission of HIV spot kits from M/s. Gene labs, Singapore has not been approved.

(c) Directions have been issued to all Port Officers to be vigilant and not permit any import of drugs without regular import permission and also to monitor imports carefully.

Regularisation of Employees of National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau

518. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that services of many employees working in the National Nutrition Monitoring Bureau, Nagpur have not been regularised as yet, although they arc working for over two decades, doing perennial jobs;

(b) if so, the reasons for not regularising these employees' services;

(c) whether steps are being taken to regularise their services;